

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A reverse battery protection circuit comprising:
  - a first controlled semiconductor switch for providing current to a load and coupled in series with load terminals across which load terminals the load is adapted to be connected; and
- 5 a second controlled semiconductor switch disposed in a series circuit with a free wheeling diode, the series circuit being coupled across the load terminals.
2. The circuit of claim 1, wherein the second controlled semiconductor switch has a control electrode coupled to a main current carrying electrode of the main switch.
3. The circuit of claim 1, wherein the semiconductor switches comprise FETs.
4. The circuit of claim 3, wherein the control electrode of the second controlled semiconductor switch is coupled to the drain of the first controlled semiconductor switch.
5. The circuit of claim 4, further comprising a zener diode coupled between gate and source of the second controlled semiconductor switch.
6. The circuit of claim 1, further comprising a driver circuit for the first controlled semiconductor switch.